



GRANT RECIPIENT

INDIANA DUNES
ENVIRONMENTAL
LEARNING CENTER

YEAR

2008

COUNTY

PORTER

CATEGORY

EDUCATION/OUTREACH

GRANT AWARD

\$4,560

LOCAL SHARE

\$4,560



FOR MORE INFORMATION

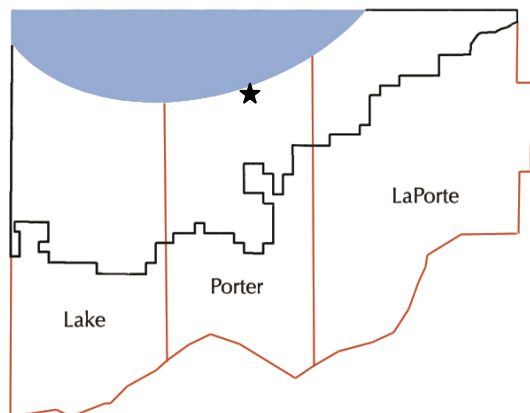
Lake Michigan Coastal Program
1600 N 25 E
Chesterton, IN 46304
(219) 983-9912
www.in.gov/dnr/lakemich



Dunes Learning Center Bioblitz- More than a 24 Hour Event

In May of 2009, National Geographic in partnership with Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore and Dunes Learning Center (DLC) hosted the 2009 BioBlitz. The BioBlitz is part scientific endeavor, part festival and part outdoor classroom. It is a 24-hour event in which teams of scientists, volunteers and community members join forces to find and identify as many local plant and animal species as possible. Participants comb the park, observing and recording as many plant and animal species as possible.

This event offered DLC and the coastal area of Northwest Indiana a tremendous opportunity for thousands of people to learn more about the incredible natural resources and educational adventures to be had in the region. DLC took advantage of this opportunity for education and to raise awareness, by actively promoting BioBlitz and developing a program aimed at engaging learners at the BioBlitz and capturing interest in the educational activities offered in the dunes and coastal areas. DLC visited schools and community groups encouraging participation in the event and involvement in environmental education activities. DLC and its partners developed a 90 minute BioBlitz education program and trained volunteer educators to conduct the program. The program implemented during the event reached nearly 2000 students. After the event, DLC followed up with interested groups captured at the event to encourage participation in educational and volunteer activities throughout the coastal areas.



RESULT: Dunes Learning Center hosted 2009 Bioblitz.